

Message Text

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NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

GSA-01 INT-05 /047 W

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R 211615Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 764

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1580

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME

REFS: A. STATE 151981 JUL 74

B. USNATO 3919 JUL 74

C. USNATO 5908 OCT 74

D. STATE 277535 DEC 74

E. USNATO 7080 DEC 74

F. USNATO 0226

SUMMARY. MISSION REVIEWS BACKGROUND OF US AND NATO ACTIONS ON THE STUDY OF THE USE OF WARNING TIME. THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE S SECRETARIAT, NATO, CIRCULATED A PROPOSED OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES FOR THE STUDY ON MARCH 19, 1975 (QUOTED BELOW) WHICH ARE UNSATISFACTORY, SINCE THEY EMPHASIZE THE DURATION AND RELIABILITY OF WARNING TIME RATHER THAN USE OF WARNING TIME. BEFORE THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP CONVENES ON MARCH 27, 1975, MISSION WILL CIRCULATE AN ALTERNATE OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES FOCUSING ON PREPARATORY AND DETERRENT MEASURES NATIONS COULD TAKE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR TO MOBILIZATION.

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END OF SUMMARY.

1. AT THE DECEMBER 1973 MINISTERIAL MEETING, SEVERAL MINISTERS

(INCLUDING SECRETARY SCHLESINGER) SUGGESTED THAT NATO UNDERTAKE A STUDY OF THE USE OF WARNING TIME IN LIGHT OF THE ISRAELI EXPERIENCE DURING THE 1973 MIDDLE EAST WAR.

2. PERMREPS AGREED AT JULY 16 1974 DPC MEETING REFS A AND B) TO A STUDY ON USE OF WARNING TIME TO BEGIN FOLLOWING DPC CONSIDERATION OF EXERCISE HILEX 6 REPORT. SOME PERMREPS THOUGHT THAT THE HILES 6 REPORT WOULD ADDRESS USE OF WARNING TIME, HOWEVER, IT DID NOT.

3. MISSION REMINDED DPC AT OCTOBER 23, 1974 MEETING, OF THEIR AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY ON USE OF WARNING TIME. DPC AGREED TO BEGIN THE STUDY AND, AFTER DISCUSSING A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS FOR UNDERTAKING THE STUDY, AGREED TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS, IS AND IMS (REF C).

4. ON DECEMBER 10, 1974, SYG LUNS CIRCULATED A PROPOSAL (PO/74/161) FOR THE COMPOSITION OF, AND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR, THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP. THE TOR OVEREMPHASIZED THE DURATION OF WARNING TIME AND, DRAWING ON REF D, MISSION INFORMED SYG AND PERMREPS BY LETTER THAT THE STUDY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THOSE ACTIONS SHORT OF MOBILIZATION THAT ALLIED GOVERNMENTS CAN AND SHOULD TAKE IN DETERRENT AND PREPARATORY STAGES PRIOR TO NOTIFICATION BY INTELLIGENCE THAT THE OUTBREAK OF WAR IS LIKELY. AT THE DPC MEETING JANUARY 16, 1975 (REF E) DPC AGREED TO SYG LUNS' RECOMMENDATION THAT THE AD HOC GROUP ITSELF ADDRESS THE POINTS RAISED IN US LETTER AND THAT NO ALTERATIONS BE MADE TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE.

5. ON MARCH 19, 1975, OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NATO, CIRCULATED TOR'S FOR THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP AND PROPOSED OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES FOR THE STUDY ON THE USE OF WARNING TIME (AC/295-N(74)1), SENT TO WASHINGTON APO REGISTRY NO. 2899). TEXTS OF TOR AND PROPOSED OUTLINE FOLLOW:

BEGIN TEXT.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE JOINT WORKING GROUP AS APPROVED (1) BY THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON 16TH JUNE, 1974 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) USING THE CURRENT VERSIONS OF MC 161 AS GUIDANCE AS TO THE DURATION OF WARNING TIME WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE AND AS TO THE CONFIDENCE WHICH COULD BE PLACED ON VARIOUS INDICATORS OF IMPENDING ATTACK, TO EXAMINE THE MEASURES, LESS THAN MOBILIZATION, WHICH NATIONS, BEARING IN MIND THE ESTABLISHED COUNCIL/DPC CONSULTATION PROCEDURES, COULD TAKE TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME WITH THE DUAL OBJECTIVE

OF DETERRING AGGRESSION AND INCREASING DEFENSIVE READINESS.
IN PARTICULAR:

(I) TO DETERMINE WHAT CAPABILITIES EXIST IN THE
FIELD OF CONTINGENCY PLANS OFFERING A
GRADUATED CHOICE OF ACTIONS;

(II) TO IDENTIFY ANY GAPS IN THE ABOVE.

IN ITS REVIEW, THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD DRAW ON
MILITARY COMMITTEE AND POLITICAL COMMITTEE STUDIES
CARRIED OUT AFTER THE CZECHOSLOVAK CRISIS, AND THE
STUDY CARRIED OUT BY THE DEFENCE REVIEW COMMITTEE
OF NATIONAL MOBILIZATION SYSTEMS AS UPDATED IN
DPC/D(73)1.

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(B) TO REPORT TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE.

WARNING TIME STUDY

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS MEANT BY WARNING
AND THE NATURE OF THE DATA ON WHICH IT WILL BE BASED.

TO REACH A REALISTIC APPRECIATION OF THE LENGTH AND
RELAIBILITY OF WARNING TIME, IN ACCORDANCE WITH VARIOUS
POLITICO-MILITARY SITUATIONS, IN RELATION TO DECISION-MAKING

AND PREPARATION IN NATO.

TO COMPARE THIS WITH THE TIME NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE
VARIOUS CIVIL AND MILITARY MEASURES NEEDED TO PUT NATO INTO A
WAR FOOTING.

SECONDARY OBJECTIVES

TO EVALUATE THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE ADVANTAGE WHICH THE
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WARSAW PACT ENJOYS AS A RESULT OF THE INITIATIVE WOULD BE
INCREASED BY INDECISION ON THE PART OF NATO.

TO IMPRESS ON MINISTERS AND OTHERS THE NEED FOR URGENT
DECISION-MAKING IN CRISIS AND SEMI-CRISIS SITUATIONS.

TO IDENTIFY MEANS FOR ACCELERATING NATO'S PREPARATIONS
FOR WAR.

TO CONSIDER MEASURES FOR IMPROVING NATO'S DETERRENT
POSTURE IN THE FACE OF A MOUNTING CRISIS.

PROCEDURE

CIRCULATE REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND CALL FOR
NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM DELEGATIONS AND OTHERS.

CALL ON INITIAL BUSINESS MEETING AND DISCUSS OBJECTIVES
AS ABOVE.

ARRANGE INTELLIGENCE BRIEFINGS ON WARNING TIME WITH
REFERENCE TO LESSONS OF THE 1973 WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ARRANGE PRESENTATION ON THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM.

SEEK RELEVANT INFORMATION ON NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
AND PROCEDURES FOR TRANSITION TO WAR.

UPDATE REPORT (DPC/D(73)1) ON THE AUGMENTATION AND
REINFORCEMENT CAPABILITY OF THE ALLIANCE.

DRAFT, CIRCULATE AND DISCUSS MATERIAL FOR REPORT.
END TEXT.

6. THE PROPOSED STUDY OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES IS UNSATISFACTORY,
PARTICULARLY IN ITS EMPHASIS ON THE LENGTH AND RELIABILITY OF
WARNING TIME.

7. BEFORE THE JOINT WORKING GROUP CONVENES ON MARCH 27 MISSION
WILL CIRCULATE AN ALTERNATE OUTLINE OF OBJECTIVES FOCUSING ON

PREPARATORY AND DETERRENT MEASURES WHICH NATIONS COULD TAKE

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TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF WARNING TIME PRIOR TO MOBILIZATION
OR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM.

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